

**REMARKS**

**Objections to the Drawings**

The drawings have been objected to as allegedly failing to show every feature of the claimed invention. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that features related to the terminal and node connections specified in the last seven lines of claim 67. Applicant submits that Figs. 4(a) and 5 illustrate the above features. Fig. 4(a) illustrates the terminal and mode connections to the blocks labeled TMD which are the Time Dividing Circuits as illustrated in Fig. 5. These figures are described in the specification at least on pages 20-21. Applicant respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

**Claim Rejections**

Claims 67-73 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being misdescriptive of the circuit arrangement related to the input and output terminals. Applicant has amended claim 67 to recite appropriate input and output terminals thereby particularly pointing out how the claim features read on the circuit arrangement of Fig. 4. Applicant has amended claims 68, 70 and 72 to be consistent with amended claim 67. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

Claim 66 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,955,896 to Horiguchi et al. ("Horiguchi").

With regard to amended independent claim 66, Horiguchi does not disclose or suggest at least producing at said first output terminal a first output signal relative only to said first input signal, and at said third output terminal a third output signal relative only to said second input signal, as recited in claim 66.

In Fig. 16 of Horiguchi, the Examiner identifies a first output terminal (Cij0), a second output terminal (Cij2) and a third output terminal (Cij3), as well as a first input terminal (BiB) and a second input terminal (BjT) and alleged timing control circuits 99a, 99c and 99d connected between the input terminals and output terminals. Fig. 16 makes obvious, however, that none of the alleged timing control circuits 99a, 99c and 99d can produce an output signal at its respective output terminal relative to only one of the input signals, as claimed by Applicant. In other words, as disclosed by Horiguchi, each alleged timing control circuit requires two different input signals from two different input terminals to produce an output. For example, circuit 99c requires input signals from the first input terminal (BiB) and the second input terminal (BjT) to produce an output signal at the output terminal (Cij2). The remaining circuits of Horiguchi operate similarly.

For at least the above reasons, Horiguchi does not disclose or suggest at least producing at said first output terminal a first output signal relative only to said first input signal, and at said third output terminal a third output signal relative only to said second input signal. Therefore, since Horiguchi does not anticipate independent claim 66, claim 66 is patentable over Horiguchi.

Claims 60-65 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,617,043 to Han et al. ("Han").

Han does not disclose at least a first switch rendered conductive and non-conductive in response only to a first signal, and a second switch rendered conductive and non-conductive in response only to a second signal, as recited in amended independent claim 66. As disclosed in Fig. 5 of Han which is relied upon by the Examiner, the response of first switch 38 depends on first signal 31 and also on the signal at node 35. Likewise, the response of second switch 42

depends on the second signal 33, the signal at node 35 and additionally on the signal at node 37. In other words, the first switch *is not* rendered conductive and non-conductive in response *only* to a first signal, and the second switch *is not* rendered conductive and non-conductive in response *only* to a second signal, as recited in amended independent claim 60. Additionally, Han does not disclose a period for both the first and second switches to be conductive.

Since Han does not disclose or suggest a first and second switch rendered conductive and non-conductive in response only to a first signal and a second signal, respectively, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would not be motivated to modify Han to result in the claimed invention without the hindsight provided by Applicant's invention.

For at least the above reasons, independent claim 60 is patentable over the prior art. Dependent claims 61-65 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on independent claim 60.

#### **New Claims**

Applicant has added new claims 74-79, which are supported throughout the specification and drawings. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added. Independent claim 74 contains features similar to the features recited in claim 60 and is therefore patentable for similar reasons. Claims 71-79 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

#### **Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
Application No. 10/627,632

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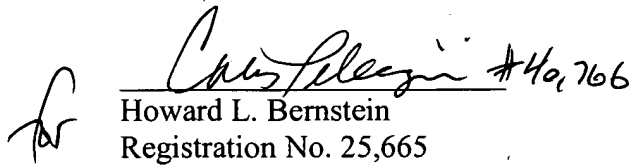
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